

OSCAR ENTRY 2020 - THE PHILIPPINES


MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE
D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA
LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA 2019
Orizzonti Special Jury Prize

Official Selection
tiff
Toronto International
Film Festival 2019

MAX EIGENMANN

KRISTOFFER KING

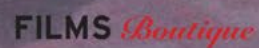
VERDICT

A FILM BY RAYMUND RIBAY GUTIERREZ

CENTER STAGE PRODUCTIONS in association with FILMS BOUTIQUE PLAYTIME SOVEREIGN FILMS BORD CADRE FILMS PRESENT A FILM BY RAYMUND RIBAY GUTIERREZ "VERDICT" MAX EIGENMANN KRISTOFFER KING VINCENT AUDEUS LOURDES INDUNAN JORDEN SUAN

SOUND BY BRYAN DUMAGUINA EDITOR BY DIEGO MARK DOBLES PRODUCTION DESIGNER RYAN FAUSTINO DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOSHUA REYLES CREATIVE CONSULTANT ARMANDO BING LAD BRILLANTE MENDOZA PRODUCED BY BRILLANTE MA MENDOZA
CO-PRODUCED BY NICOLAS BRIGAUD ROBERT JEAN-CHRISTOPHE SIMON ASSOCIATE PRODUCER CARLO VALENZONA JOSEPH SALUYA GABOR GREINER SEBASTIEN BEFFA VALERY GUIBAL FRANÇOIS YON DAN WECHSLER ANDREAS ROALD JAMAL ZEINAL-ZADE

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BRILLANTE MA MENDOZA WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY RAYMUND RIBAY GUTIERREZ



CENTER STAGE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

VERDICT

A FILM BY RAYMUND RIBAY GUTIERREZ

2019 - Philippines - Drama - 1,78 - 126 min

INTERNATIONAL PRESS

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SYNOPSIS

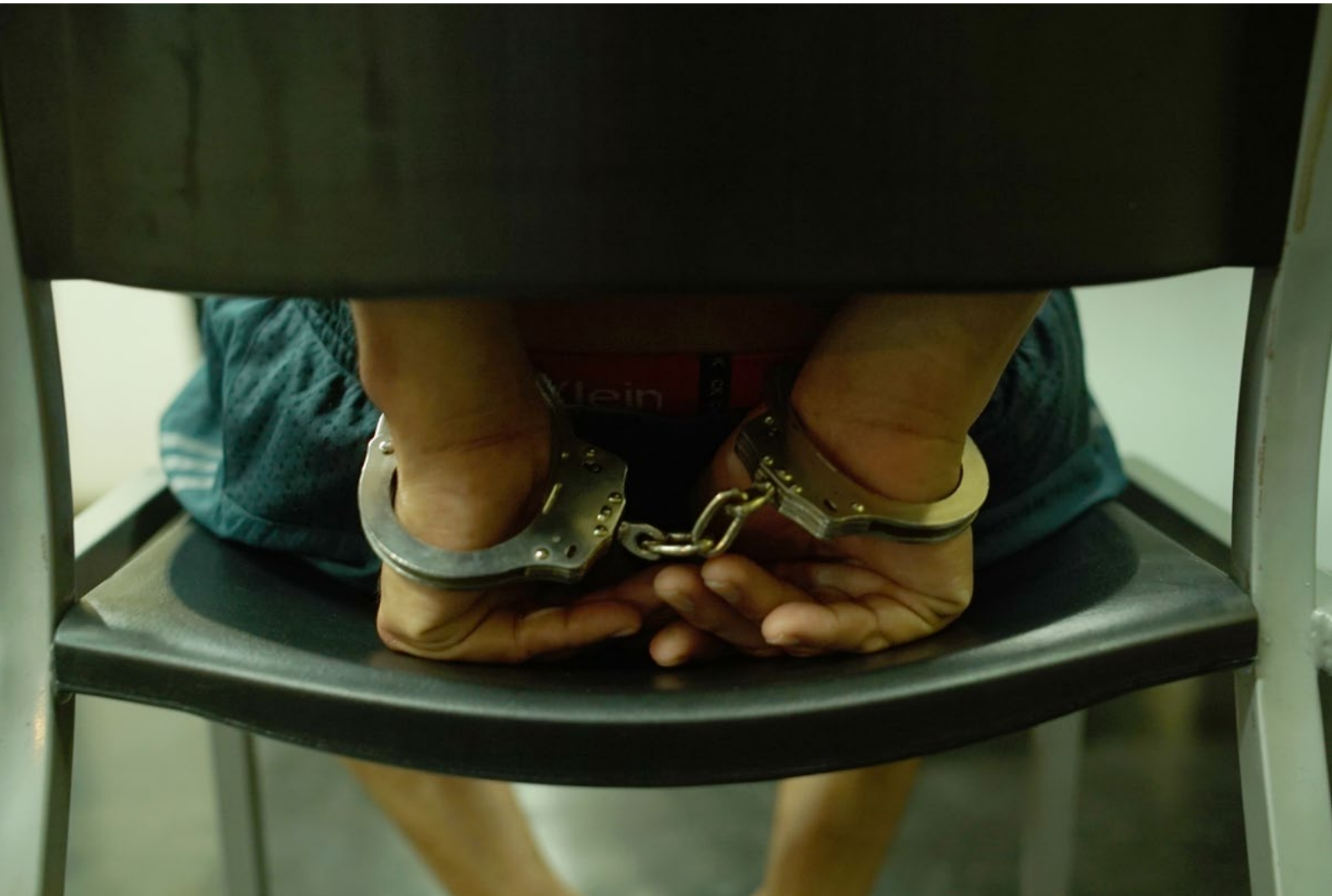
Joy and her six-year-old daughter Angel live in Manila, with her husband, Dante, a small-time criminal. As so often in the past, Dante comes home drunk at night and beats Joy brutally. This time, he also hurts Angel. Joy grabs her daughter and flees to the local police post to finally get him sent to jail. Justice, Joy learns, takes time at best and is impossible to get at worst. Not without reason, she feels that she and her daughter are increasingly under threat...



DIRECTORS' NOTE

Domestic violence is the most prevalent form of abuse in the Philippines. My interest in making a film about this topic was raised when I came across a mother mending bruises all over her body while undergoing a medico-legal check-up. Apparently, she had been physically abused by her husband during an altercation at home. Upon following-up on her case recently, I found out that she didn't push through with the case against her husband due to its impracticality.

The cost of pursuing a case in the Philippines is astronomically high for an average Filipino. Under these circumstances, society sees and expects the legal system to be equal in every aspect, for the defendant as well as for the victim. What I am trying to show in the film is that sometimes equality in litigation leads to a more complex procedure that in turn results in impunity for the perpetrator. Orderly judicial procedures are important, but if they are the only focus, they threaten to pervert the justice they seek.



There are times when justice needs to be timely in order to be justice at all. If getting a verdict takes unreasonable and inordinate time, proceedings take away the meaning of seeking justice in the first place.



DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHY

Raymund Ribay Gutierrez is a Filipino director and screenwriter. After graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Multimedia Arts, he pursued a career in filmmaking after joining a workshop which gave him an opportunity to work with the award-winning director, Brillante Ma Mendoza, who became his mentor. Mendoza also executive produced VERDICT

As a screenwriter, he is profoundly influenced by Armando Bing Lao, the founder and teacher of the "Found Story" storytelling theory that has shaped Mendoza's films as well as Gutierrez' own work.

Gutierrez's first short film was IMAGO (2016), which received a nomination for the Palme d'Or Best Short Film in Cannes (2016) and won multiple awards, e.g. Best Short Cut at the Toronto International Film Festival (2016), Best Short Film Award in Stockholm International Film Festival (2016), Best Short Film in London Short Film Festival (2017), and Best Film in Minimalen Short Film Festival (2018).

In 2018, his second short film, JUDGEMENT, was nominated again for the Palme d'Or Best Short Film in Cannes (2018). Gutierrez, age 25, is the first Filipino director to have competed twice in the short film category for the Palme d'Or. VERDICT is Gutierrez' first feature.

DIRECTORS' FILMOGRAPHY

VERDICT (2019)

- 2019 Venice International Film Festival – Orizzonti

JUDGEMENT (2018)

- 2018 Cannes Film Festival – Palme d'Or nominee
- 2018 Stockholm Film Festival – Winner Best Short Film
- 2018 UK Film Festival – Nominee Best International Short Film
- 2018 Toronto International Film Festival – Nominee Best International Short Film
- 2018 Asiana International Film Festival – Grand Prize Nominee
- 2018 El Gouna International Film Festival – Winner Silver Star
- 2019 Flickerfest International Film Festival – Winner Special Mention
- 2018 Milano International Film Festival – Best Short Film Nominee
- 2019 Hong Kong International Film Festival – Grand Prize Nominee
- 2019 MOOV Film Festival – Winner Kiripi Award

IMAGO (2016)

- 2016 Cannes Film Festival – Palme d'Or nominee
- 2016 Milan Film Festival – International Best Short Film Nominee
- 2016 Stockholm Film Festival – Winner Best Short Film
- 2017 Toronto International Film Festival – Winner Best International Short Film
- 2017 London Short Film Festival UK – Winner Best Short Film

VERDICT



CREW

Written and Directed by
Creative Consultant

Raymund Ribay Gutierrez
Armando Lao

Executive Producer
Co-Producer

Brillante Ma Mendoza
Brillante Ma Mendoza
Nicolas Brigaud Robert
Jean-Christophe Simon

Associate Producer

Carlo Valenzona
Joseph Saluya
Sebastien Beffa
Valery Guibal
Gabor Greiner
Francois Yon

Director of Photography
Editor Diego
Sound

Dan Wechsler
Andreas Roald
Jamal Zeinal-Zade

Assistant Director
Post Production

Joshua A. Reyles
Marx Dobles
Bryan Dumaguina
Monoxide Works
Charita "Ninay" Castinlag
Keep Me Posted Inc.



VERDICT



CAST

Joy Del Rosario	Max Eigenmann
Dante Santos	Kristoffer King
Angel Santos	Jorden Suan
Judge	Pakingan Rene Durian
Fiscal Quintana	Lourdes Javelosa-Indunan
Attorney Gonzales	Vincent Aureus
Attorney Cruz	Stephen Humiwat
Isabel	Liza Schneider
Sid	Sidney Schneider
Elsa/Dante's Mother	Dolly De Leon
Jane/Dante's Sister	Jalyn Perez
Dante's Employer	Dominic Carpio
Barangay Captain	Apollo Abraham
Barangay Tanod	Perry Dizon
Barangay Tanod	Ryan Sandoval
Arresting Officer	Star Orjaliza
Doctor's Representative	Matt Daclan
Barangay Desk Officer	Noel Calinaya
DSWD Staff	Alice Cabanillas
DSWD Staff	Joan Pacifico
Stella/Joy's Neighbor	Eden Solidor
ER Doctor	Dr. Donabel Ombao
Court Staff	Dexter Macaraeg
Court Staff	Jevieden Gallenero
Court Staff	Ferdie Alcalin
Court Staff	Joana Rizza Bien

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager	Mikki Garcia Antonio Del Rosario
Associate Production Manager	Ynah Morco
Production Associate	Precious Flores
Production Designer	Ryan Faustino
Wardrobe & Make-up	Ruffa Zulueta
Assistant Wardrobe	Ayra Mae Real
Prosthetics	Eric Cabillo Joel Dinolan Dominador Azania
Field Cashier	Aurora Cruz
Casting Director	Eden Solidor
Gaffer	Richard Vincent De Jesus
Cameramen	Freidric Macapagal Cortez Jao Daniel Elamparo Paolo Manere
Sound Recordist	Deo Van Fidelson
BTS	Russel Cias
Stills	Jao Daniel Elamparo
Translations Boots	Agbayani Pastor
Subtitles	Joseph Saluya Nicole Venice Rey
Setman	Kenneth Samson Richard Faustino Leo Ensinas Rolando Arroyo
Utility	Elmer Salandaan Michael Abejero Bhong Grefalda

VERDICT



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FILMS *Boutique*